



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Philadelphia District

PROJECT FACT SHEET

C&D BRANCH CANAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

March 2005

CONGRESSIONAL INFO: Sen. Biden PA, Sen. Carper PA, Rep. Castle DE-AL

AUTHORITY: Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, as amended:
Ecosystem Restoration.

LOCATION: The study area is located along the Branch Channel of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, near Delaware City, Delaware.

STUDY/PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The study area is adjacent to the north embankment of the Old Branch Canal, and east of the Delaware City Dredge Disposal Area. This wetland is a remnant of the St. Georges and Dragon Run Creek. The area is currently heavily silted, choked with Phragmites, and of minimal wildlife value. It is also the collection point for stormwater from the southeast section of town. The invasive nature of Phragmites has also resulted in the degradation of the historic African Union Church Cemetery. Environmental benefits could occur by making improvements to the two heavily silted ponds to increase stormwater storage capacity; reconnecting ponds to tidal ditches with sills, enhancing its value for wetland wildlife. Additional wetland enhancement could also include Phragmite eradication, upland fringe wildlife plantings, and installation of wetland and upland wildlife nesting structures. Several of these improvements would also reduce or eliminate flooding for the several homes in the Delaware City Trailer Park.

STUDY/PROJECT STATUS: FY 2004 funds were used to initiate preparation of a preliminary restoration plan, which defines the subsequent project. FY 2005 funds will be used to complete the PDA and obtain higher authority approval to begin the subsequent Planning and Design Phase.

FINANCIAL DATA: (\$000)

BUDGET DATA: (\$000)

Est. Federal Cost:	TBD		
Est. Non-Federal Cost:	TBD	FY 04	\$14.0
Total Estimated Cost:	TBD	FY 05	\$16.0

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: An Environmental Assessment will need to be prepared.

SPONSOR: City of Delaware City

CRITICAL ISSUES: Due to the nationwide demand for limited program funds, full funding may not be possible.

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